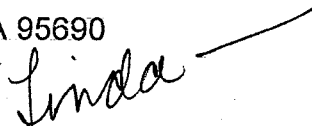


October 20, 2008

Linda Fiack, Executive Director  
Delta Protection Commission  
P.O. Box 530  
Walnut Grove, CA 95690

Dear Ms. Fiack:



Throughout the state, there is a growing recognition of the environmental and economic threats posed by aquatic invasive species (AIS). The problem has reached a scale and complexity that requires a well-coordinated interagency approach to minimize its impacts.

To address this need, the California Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan has been developed with input from relevant agencies, academia, and stakeholders. The plan provides a blueprint for how state agencies can work with one another as well as with other levels of government, research institutions and stakeholders to minimize the impacts of AIS. It was signed by Governor Schwarzenegger in January 2008, and approved by the federal Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force. It can be viewed at [www.dfg.ca.gov/invasives/plan](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/invasives/plan).

The first of the highest priority actions in the plan is to establish a California Aquatic Invasive Species Management Team (CAAIST) to coordinate the work of state agencies in the implementation of the plan. The CAAIST will consist of supervisory or management level representatives from state agencies. It is anticipated that the CAAIST will utilize subcommittees, which are likely to include subordinates of CAAIST members, to accomplish most of its work.

The CAAIST is likely to meet or conference call as an entire group three or four times during the first year and two to three times per year thereafter. The Department of Fish and Game (DFG) and the California Ocean Protection Council are collaborating to provide support staff for the CAAIST and its subcommittees.

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Linda Fiack  
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I would like to invite the Delta Protection Commission to appoint a representative to the CAAIST. To be of maximum benefit to the team, this person should in a position to assign subordinates to participate in collaborative subcommittee work.

A meeting for the CAAIST is set for December 1, 2008 from 12:30 – 3:30pm in Room 1412 at 1416 Ninth Street. Agenda items will include orientation to the California Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan, priority actions for the CAAIST, and the identification of subcommittees or advisory panels.

Would you please direct staff to respond to Julie Horenstein, in DFG's Invasive Species Program, as to whether the Delta Protection Commission will have a representative on the CAAIST and if so, who that representative will be and whether they will be able to attend the meeting on December 1st? She can also provide more information about the AIS plan and the CAAIST. Her phone number is (916) 651-8797, and her e-mail address is [jhorenstein@dfg.ca.gov](mailto:jhorenstein@dfg.ca.gov).

I appreciate your agency's efforts to work in a collaborative manner on controlling the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species.

Sincerely,



Mike Chrisman  
Secretary for Resources

cc: Julie Horenstein  
Department of Fish and Game  
Habitat Conservation Branch  
1416 Ninth Street, Ste. 1260  
Sacramento, CA 95814